

ASSEMBLY, No. 1362

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

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District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

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District 26 (Essex, Morris and Passaic)

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SYNOPSIS

Requires DOT and OIT to develop materials concerning capabilities of airports in NJ and establishes "Public Use Airports Task Force."

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 AN ACT concerning New Jersey airports and supplementing
2 P.L.1938, c.48 (C.6:1-20 et seq.).
3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:
6

7 1. a. The Department of Transportation, in conjunction with
8 geographic information systems staff from the Office of
9 Information Technology, shall, within 180 days of enactment of
10 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill),
11 produce a comprehensive and current directory of airports in New
12 Jersey. The Department of Transportation and the Office of
13 Information Technology shall produce the directory in print and
14 electronic formats and develop an accompanying mobile application
15 for the directory. The directory shall include maps and information
16 on the capabilities of each airport and landing facility in this State.

17 b. The Department of Transportation shall update the directory
18 produced pursuant to this section at least once every five years.
19

20 2. a. There is established in the Department of Transportation
21 the Public Use Airports Task Force.

22 b. The task force shall be comprised of 21 members, as
23 follows:

24 (1) two members of the Senate Transportation Committee,
25 appointed by the President of the Senate, and two members of the
26 Assembly Transportation and Independent Authorities Committee,
27 appointed by the Speaker of the General Assembly, and no more
28 than one appointment from each committee shall be of the same
29 political party;

30 (2) the Commissioner of Transportation, or the Commissioner of
31 Transportation's designee

32 (3) the Commissioner of Education, or the Commissioner of
33 Education's designee; and

34 (4) the following members appointed by the Governor:

35 (a) one public member with a background in higher education
36 administration;

37 (b) one public member who is a representative of the New
38 Jersey School Boards Association;

39 (c) one public member who is a representative of the New
40 Jersey Education Association;

41 (d) one public member with a background as a high school
42 guidance counselor;

43 (e) one public member who holds a flight instructor certificate
44 with a seaplane rating issued by the Federal Aviation
45 Administration;

46 (f) one public member who holds a mechanic certificate, with
47 airframe and powerplant privileges, issued by the Federal Aviation
48 Administration;

- 1 (g) one public member who is an attorney with expertise in the
2 aerospace industry;
- 3 (h) one public member who is a personnel recruiter for an
4 airline;
- 5 (i) one public member who has served as a recruiter for a
6 branch of the Armed Forces of the United States;
- 7 (j) one public member who is a senior member of the New
8 Jersey Wing of the Civil Air Patrol of the United States Air Force
9 Auxiliary;
- 10 (k) one public member who previously served as a member of
11 the General Aviation Study Commission, created pursuant to
12 section 2 of P.L.1993, c.336;
- 13 (l) one public member who is affiliated with the New Jersey
14 Aviation Association;
- 15 (m) one public member who is an aviator with a background in
16 science, technology, engineering, or math education; and
- 17 (n) two public members who are representatives of public use
18 airports in this State.
- 19 c. In making appointments to the task force, the President of
20 the Senate, Speaker of the General Assembly, and Governor shall
21 give priority to individuals who hold an airmen certification issued
22 by the Federal Aviation Administration or another piloting
23 credential, as determined by the Department of Transportation. All
24 appointments shall be made within 30 days of the effective date of
25 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).
26 Vacancies in the membership shall be filled in the same manner as
27 the original appointments.
- 28 d. The task force shall organize as soon as practicable after the
29 appointment of a majority of its members, and may meet and hold
30 hearings at such places and times as it shall designate.
- 31 e. The members of the task force shall serve without
32 compensation but may be reimbursed, within the limits of funds
33 made available to the task force, for necessary travel expenses
34 incurred in the performance of their duties.
- 35 f. The department may provide professional and clerical staff
36 to the task force as may be necessary for the task force's purposes,
37 and the task force may also be entitled to call upon the services of
38 any State, county, or municipal department, board, commission, or
39 agency, as may be available to it for its purposes.
- 40 g. In executing its duties under section 3 of P.L. ,
41 c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), the task
42 force may consult with associations, organizations, and individuals
43 who are knowledgeable about the topics and industries evaluated by
44 and subject to the recommendations of the task force.
- 45 h. The task force may solicit and receive grants and other funds
46 that are made available for the task force's purposes by any
47 governmental, public, private, not-for-profit, or for-profit agency,
48 including funds that are made available under any federal or State
49 law, regulation, or program.

1 3. a. The Public Use Airports Task Force established pursuant
2 to section 2 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature
3 as this bill) shall:

4 (1) evaluate the existing operations of public use airports in this
5 State, including projections for continued operational sustainability
6 of public use airports based upon current and expected market
7 conditions;

8 (2) develop recommendations for infrastructure initiatives and
9 transit programs to meet current and expected market demand for
10 different classifications of aircraft and air transport components;

11 (3) develop recommendations for policy changes to support the
12 continued operation of public use airports in this State, including,
13 but not limited to, recommendations for changes to tax structures,
14 changes to State and political subdivision regulation of public use
15 airports, the alteration of current State programs, and the
16 development of new programs to ensure the continued sustainability
17 of public use airports in New Jersey;

18 (4) develop State and local strategies and recommendations for
19 growing aerospace industry sectors in the State and ensuring the
20 economic viability of public use airports in New Jersey, including
21 the education and training of new pilots;

22 (5) complete a survey of successful educational programs, that
23 meet or exceed applicable federal requirements, for the training of
24 new pilots and aerospace industry mechanics;

25 (6) develop recommendations to expand pilot training and
26 incentivize aerospace innovation in this State;

27 (7) develop recommendations for the establishment of new
28 education programs, flight training programs, and aerospace
29 internships in this State to contribute to the sustainability and
30 expansion of public use airports and the aerospace industry in this
31 State;

32 (8) develop recommendations, including specific mechanisms,
33 for the State, local governments, educational institutions, and
34 industry stakeholders to share information and collaborate to
35 expand research and development within the aerospace industry in
36 this State;

37 (9) develop recommendations for specific initiatives to increase
38 investment and public interest in aviation and the aerospace
39 industry in this State;

40 (10) evaluate the current operations and performance of the
41 Department of Transportation in the oversight of the State's public
42 use airports, and develop recommendations for the reorganization or
43 realignment of the department;

44 (11) analyze the current assurance requirements imposed by the
45 Federal Aviation Administration on owners, sponsors, planning
46 organizations, and other organizations that accept funds from
47 certain financial assistance programs administered by the Federal
48 Aviation Administration, and develop recommendations to increase

1 the amounts of federal assistance received by public use airports in
2 this State;

3 (12) study, with the assistance of the Department of Education
4 and the New Jersey State Library, the potential for establishing a
5 coordinated State program that accurately represents the
6 development and importance of the State's airport and aviation
7 heritage;

8 (13) develop and disseminate recommendations and strategies
9 that public use airports in this State can utilize to realize cost-
10 savings and operational efficiencies through the development and
11 deployment of environmentally responsible, modular infrastructure;

12 (14) study, with the assistance of the Secretary of Higher
13 Education, the potential and cost expectations for the development
14 of an enhanced aerospace transportation navigation system for the
15 State's public use airports, that includes object avoidance
16 technology and technology for monitoring weather and air traffic;

17 (15) develop recommendations, tools, and strategies to help
18 ensure the adequate financing of aerospace businesses, flying clubs,
19 and flight schools in this State, without regard for operational or
20 organizational structure under federal or State law;

21 (16) develop recommendations to assist the continued
22 advancement of public use airports as community assets and
23 sources of business expansion in this State ;

24 (17) analyze the feasibility of allowing seaplanes to land in any
25 appropriately-sized body of water and, within 60 calendar days of
26 the first meeting of the task force, make recommendations for those
27 bodies of water that are to be opened immediately to seaplane use in
28 the State unless the State or a local government specifically
29 prohibits the landing of a seaplane on the specific body of water;
30 and

31 (18) develop recommendations for the removal of obstructions
32 in and around public use airports, including restricting the height to
33 which structures or trees may be erected or allowed to grow, to
34 increase public safety.

35 b. The task force shall present a report of its findings and
36 recommendations to the Governor and, pursuant to section 2 of
37 P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), to the Legislature no later than 24
38 months after the organization of the task force.

39
40 4. This act shall take effect immediately.
41
42

43 STATEMENT 44

45 This bill establishes a temporary Public Use Airports Task Force
46 (task force) within the Department of Transportation (department).
47 The department, in conjunction with geographic information
48 systems staff from the Office of Information Technology, is
49 required to produce a comprehensive and current directory of

1 airports in New Jersey in print, electronic, and mobile application
2 formats. The bill requires that the directory include maps of and
3 information on the capabilities of each airport and landing facility
4 in this State. The bill also requires the department to update the
5 directory at least once every five years.

6 The task force is to be composed of 21 members, as described in
7 the bill. The task force is required to evaluate, survey, analyze, and
8 study various aspects of the operation and value of public use
9 airports and evaluate the continued development of the aviation and
10 aerospace industries in the State. The task force is also required to
11 develop certain recommendations for the advancement of public use
12 airports, flight training, and the aviation and aerospace industries in
13 the State. The bill requires the task force to present a report of its
14 findings and recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature
15 no later than 24 months after the organization of the task force.

WITHDRAWN